

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 128 FOR ANSWER ON 27.12.2017

(a) to (c): Details of strength of Officers in the three Armed Forces (excluding medical and dental, force-wise are as under:

Service	Authorised Strength	Held Strength	Shortage
Army (As on 1.7.2017)	49932	42253	7679 (15.38%)
Navy (As on 31.10.2017)	11827	10393	1434 (12.12%)
Air Force (As on 1.9.2017)	12550	12404	146 (1.19%)

Details of strength of Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBOR) / Airmen / Sailors in the three Armed Forces (excluding medical and dental), force-wise, are as under:

Service	Authorised Strength	Held Strength	Shortage
Army (As on 1.7.2017)	1215049	1194864	20185 (1.66%)
Navy (As on 31.10.2017)	71656	56835	14821 (20.68%)
Air Force (As on 1.9.2017)	142529	127172	15357 (10.77%)

(d) The recruitment in the Armed Forces is a continuous process. The Government has taken a number of measures to reduce the shortages. These include sustained image projection, participation in career fairs and exhibitions and publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career. Further, Government has taken various steps to make armed forces' jobs attractive including improvement in promotion prospects in the Armed Forces.

Recruitment of Personnel Below Officers Ranks (PBORs) in Army is carried out through Open Rally System being conducted regularly throughout the country. Efforts are made to cover entire country including remote and tribal areas. In Navy, regular recruitment drives are undertaken, covering all States / Regions for recruitment of sailors. Recruitment of Airmen in Air Force is on all India basis through scheduled selection tests. In addition, recruitment rallies are also conducted in different parts of the country including tribal areas to provide opportunity to youth to join the Armed Forces.

(e) In the Indian Army officers proceeding on superannuation, who are eligible, are being granted Re-employment against deficiencies in the rank of Lt. Colonel and below in the officers cadre. Services of such officers are utilized both in field and peace areas.
